an area of 7.75 lakh ha. and financial assistance to the tune of Bs. 80 lakhs was provided to the farmers as subsidy on pesticides.

(ii) During Rabi 1990-91, surveillance activities ere intensified and timely control measures were undertaken in an area of 9379 ha. of nursery to prevent the disease. Financial assistance Of Rs. 56.16 lakhs was provided to the farmers as subsidy for this purpose. No disease incidence was reported in Rabi of 1990-91.

(hi) During Kharif 1991-92, similar efforts were made with financial assistance of Rs. 87.24 lakhs. RTV disease was recorded only in an area of 390 ha.

(iv) RTV resistant tolerant varieties are being popularised.

(v) Training and education programmes for farmers through mass-media have been organised. These efforts includiung intensive pest surveillance are being continued to avoid recurrence of disease in future.

Paddy production in Andhra Pradesh

1504. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI; Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE bo pleased to state the loss in paddy production in Krishna and Godavari delta in Andhra Pradesh due to inundation/ drainage problem during the last five years, year-wise: and what steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): Losses in paddy production in Krishna and Godavari delta in Andhra Pradesh due to inundation/drainage problem during last 5 years are as under:

1986-87	4,69,000 tonnes
1987-88	4,08,000 tonnes
1988-89	3,28,000 tonnes
1989-90	3.65,000 tonnes
1990-91	4.52,000 tonnes

Assistance as relief was provided for replanting/rejuvenation of crops to all affected farmers during 1986-87 and to small & marginal farmers during 1987-88. 1988-89, 1989-90 & 1990-91.

Export of Fruit

1505. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at present the country is the third largest producer of fruit next only to Brazil and U.S.A.;

(b) if so, what was the production and export of fruit during the last three years; and

(c) what infrastructure Government have developed for increasing the production and export of good quality fruit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) According to latest available FAO estimates for the year 1990, India is the second largest producer of fruits next only to Brazil.

(b) As per rough estimates, the production of fruits during the last 3 years is as under:—

Year	Production (in lakh tonnes)
1988-89	246
1989-90	260
1990-91	270

The export of fruits during the last three years was as under:—

year	Export (in Metric Tonnes)
1988-89	67343
1989-90 (Provisional)	41927
1990-91 (Provisional)	31524

(c) Several steps have been taken by both the State and Union Govern-

meats for provisions of infrastructure to increase production and export of fruits. These include setting up State Directorates of Horticulture, Nurseries and Quality PJant-Material-pro-duction centres, provision of adequate inputs including fertilizer and pesti-cides and schemes for rejuvenation of old orchards and setting up nutritional gardens.

The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) and National Horticulture Board (NHB) have also taken up schemes for improving post-harvest maaagement infrastructure so that export quality fruits are encouraged. These include schemes for cooling pre-cooling facilities, special-lised transport, refrigerated contain tiers and packaging.

1506. *[Transferred to the lithe December,* 1991]

सूखा प्रभावित राज्य

1507. श्री शिवप्रसाद जनपुरिया: क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उन राज्यों के नाम क्या हैं जहां सूखे के कारण फसलों को व्यापक रूप से नुकसान हुआ है;

(ख) सूखे से उत्पन्न संकट का मुकाबला करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा किस प्रक्रिया का अनुसरण किया जा रहा है ;

(ग) मध्य प्रदेश में उन जिलों के नाम क्या हैं जो सूखे से बुरी तरह से प्रभावित हुए हैं ;

(घ) सूखे से पीड़ित ग्रामीण लोगों की क्रय शक्ति बढ़ाने के लिए सरकार ने क्या उपाय किये हैं ;

(ङ) क्या यह सच है कि एक केन्द्रीय अध्ययन दल ने सभी सूखा प्रभावित राज्यों का दौरा किया है और यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(च) सहायता की मांग किन-किन राज्य सरकारों ने की है ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुत्तलापल्ली रामचंद्रम) : (क) से (च) राज्यों से जानकारी एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

(ङ) जी नहीं।]

(च) गुजरात, महाराष्ट्र, कर्नाटक आंध्र प्रदेश और हिमाचल प्रदेश राज्यों ने सूखा राहत के लिए अतिरिक्त केन्द्रीय सहायता मांगी है ।

Delay in delivery of dak

1508. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of COMMUNI-CATIONS; be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in Delhi edition of "Jan Satta" of May 19, 1991 to the effect that for years postal articles are not distributed and are being thrown on streets as *Raddi* etc., in Sangam Vihar, Delhi;

(b) if so, the action Government have taken in the matter; and

(c) what steps Government have taken for proper and timely distribu tion of dak to the residents of the nrea?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The Government is aware of the news item which appeared in Delhi edition of "Jan Satta" dated 19-6-91. There was no such news item in Delhi edition of "Jan Satta' dated 19-5-91.

(b) and (c) The enquiries conducted revealed irregularities in the delivery of mails. The postmen found responsible for irregularities have been suitably punished and transferred. The Postmaster incharge of the Post Office and the Public Relations Inspector have also been transferred.